

An activity display for multiple data channels over a period of time for a communication link provides a quasi-three-dimensional presentation having time periods and data channels as orthogonal axes and shading within each time period/data channel rectangle representing ones density for the channel during that time period. One or more frames of the communication link corresponding to one time period are captured, and then each frame is processed in sequence one data channel at a time to build up a line of the display for the time period. Over multiple time periods the display is built up line by line, with the oldest line being dropped as a new line is added when the maximum number of lines for the display is achieved. In this way an operator has a high level all-in-one glance at the operation of the communication link.